



OFFICE OF
WOUNDED WARRIOR
CARE & TRANSITION POLICY

SERVE > SUPPORT > EMPOWER



Program Overview Briefing

Operation Warfighter: A Department of Defense Federal internship program that places wounded, ill, and injured Service members in supportive work settings that:

Positively impact recuperation through the return to work.

Augment employment readiness of participants as they return to duty or separate from the military.

Enable Federal government agencies to better understand the skill sets and challenges of transitioning wounded, ill and injured Service members.



Wounded, Ill and Injured (WII) — Open to all wounded, ill, or injured Service members assigned to a Military Treatment Facility, an Army Warrior Transition Unit, the USMC Wounded Warrior Regiment, the Air Force Wounded Warrior Program, or the Navy Safe Harbor Program.



Medical Clearance to Participate

Each Service member must be determined to be medically ready to participate in OWF. Under no circumstance will internship assignments interfere with a participant's medical profile or adversely affect recuperation.

The determination that a Service member is medically ready to participate in OWF is dependent on two factors:

- 1) A **medical evaluation** that concludes that the Service member is medically, physically, and emotionally ready to participate in OWF while continuing medical treatment.
- 2) A **command and control evaluation** that concludes that the Service member demonstrates the initiative and self-discipline required to participate in OWF.

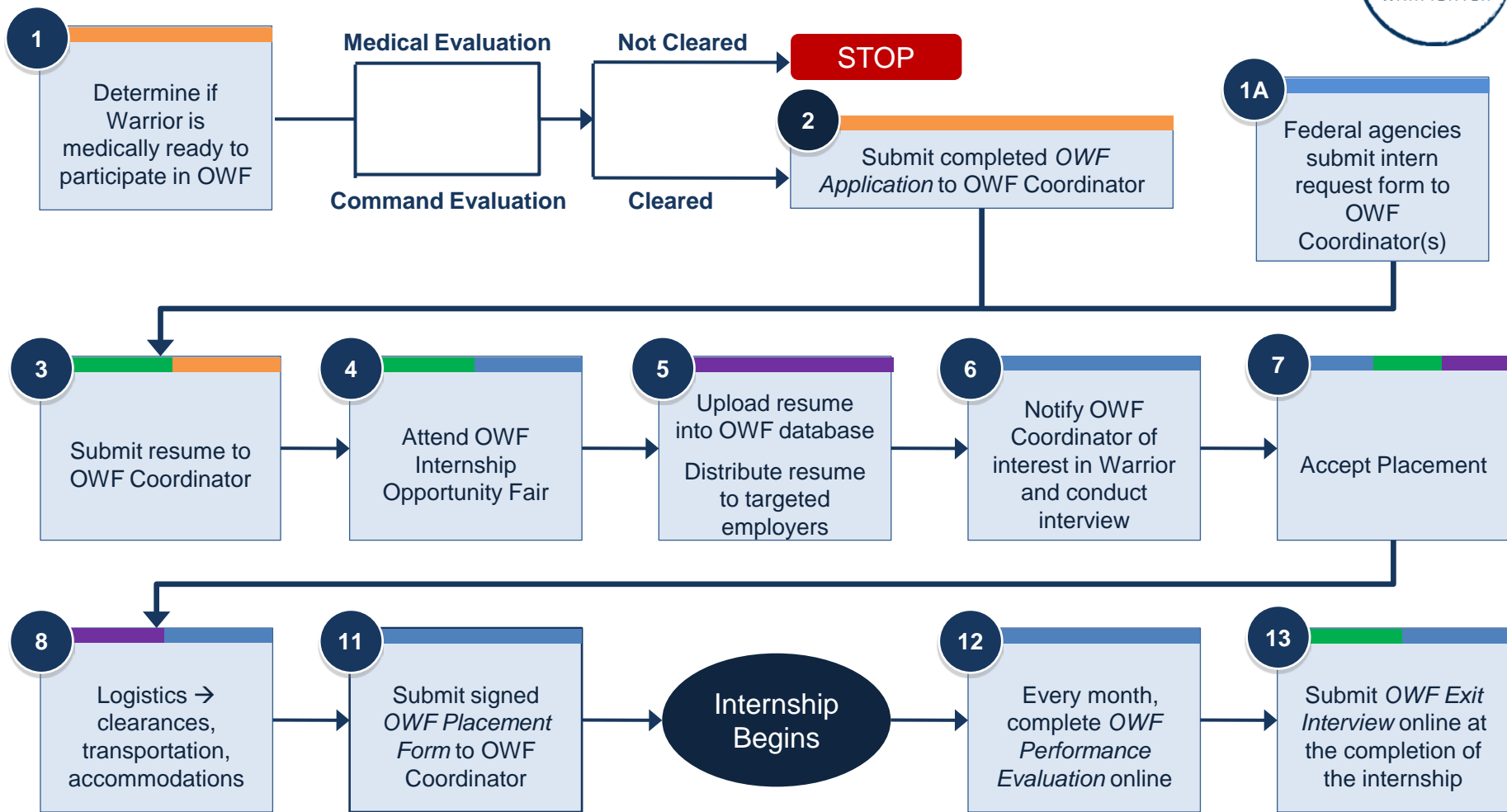


Benefits for Employer

- Ability to demonstrate support for the military service and sacrifices of wounded, ill, injured (WII) Service members.
- Access to the talent, dedication, and considerable military and non-military skills of participants.
- A vehicle for the permanent recruitment of transitioning Service members in support of the Executive Order on the Employment of Veterans in the Federal Government (NOV 2009).
 - Spread awareness on the utilization of special appointing authorities available to Veterans.
 - Better familiarize federal components with the transferable skill sets and employability of transitioning WII Service members.



Operation Warfighter Process



ACTION LEAD:



Service Wounded Warrior Program



Warrior



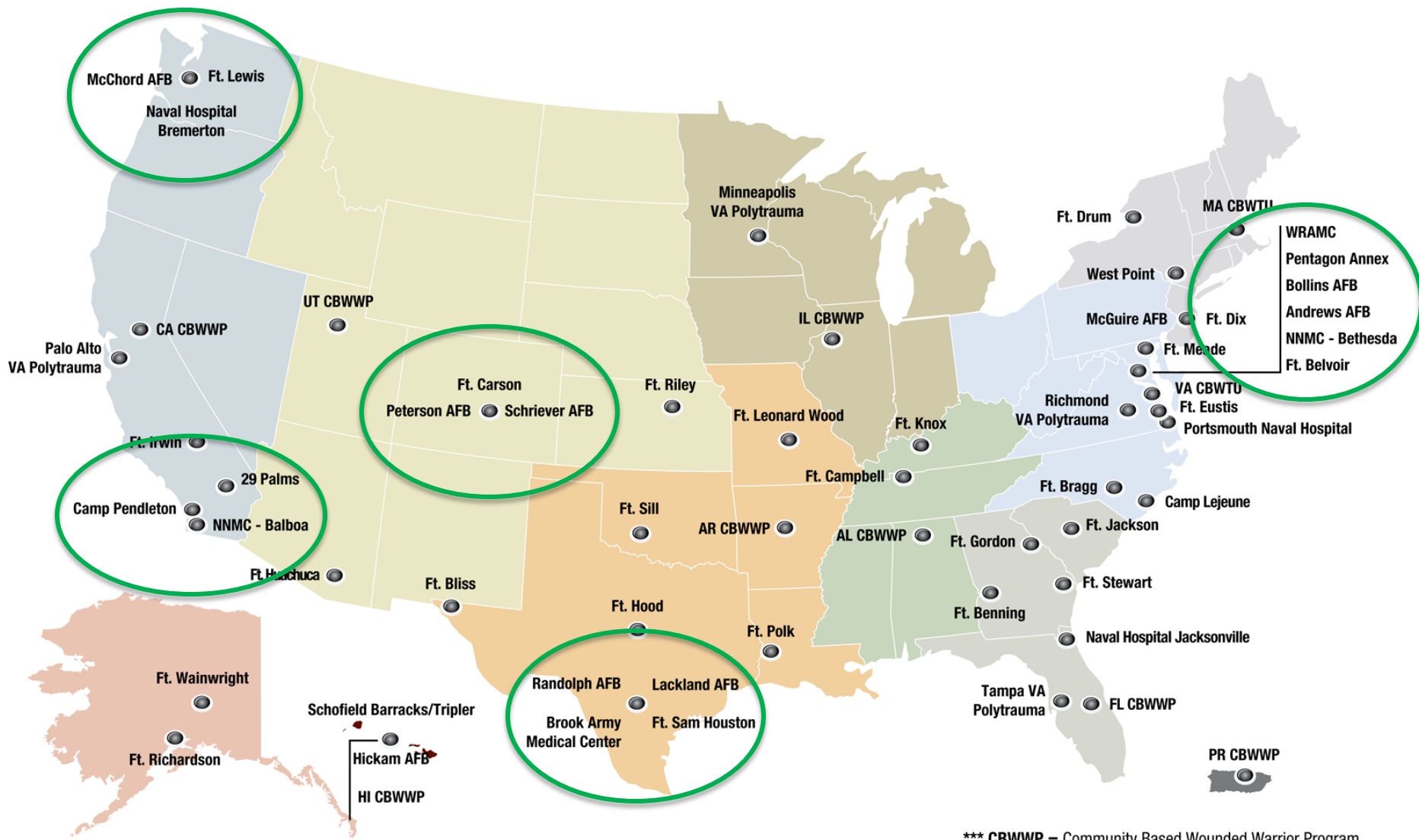
Employer



DoD OWF Coordinator



Location Map of OWF Candidates and Coordinators



*** CBWWP = Community Based Wounded Warrior Program

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*Circles indicate presence of dedicated OWF Coordinators

Successful Outcomes



- Many agencies have hired wounded warriors into permanent positions as they “graduate” from OWF and transition out of the military.
- Many participants have indicated that OWF, as a wellness activity, restored a sense of normalcy and eased the transition back to work.
- Not just about employment – Placing wounded, ill and injured Service members in supportive work settings outside of the hospital environment positively impacts the recuperation process.



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